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WEAK-STRONG UNIQUENESS FOR MEASURE-VALUED SOLUTIONS

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ABSTRACT. We prove the weak-strong uniqueness for measure-valued solutions of the incompressible Euler equations. These were introduced by R.DiPerna and A.Majda in their landmark paper [10], where in particular global existence to any L^2 initial data was proven. Whether measure-valued solutions agree with classical solutions if the latter exist has apparently remained open.

We also show that DiPerna's measure-valued solutions to systems of conservation laws have the weak-strong uniqueness property.

1. INTRODUCTION

In [9] DiPerna introduced the notion of measure-valued solutions to conservation laws, following the pioneering work of L. Tartar on compensated compactness and Young measures. DiPerna worked in the context of L^∞ solutions and thus probabilities in state space which are compactly supported. While this is sufficient in one space dimension, in general one only has a uniform energy bound, usually L^2 , to work with. This is the case in particular for the incompressible Euler equations. In [10] DiPerna and Majda extended the notion of measure-valued solutions to this unbounded case. In [11] Lions remarked that for any reasonable notion of generalized solution one should require a weak-strong uniqueness property: any time that the Cauchy problem has a “classical” solution, the generalized ones should coincide with it. Lions observed that such a result is not known for the DiPerna-Majda's solutions and he introduced his “dissipative solutions”, for which he could prove existence and weak-strong uniqueness. The remark that the weak-strong uniqueness does not seem to hold in the DiPerna-Majda's framework has been taken up by several other authors in the literature (see for instance [2]).

Since the pioneering work of Scheffer [13], it is well-known that not even distributional solutions to the Euler equations satisfy Lions' weak-strong uniqueness requirement (see also [14], [7] and [8]). It is therefore necessary to introduce some form of energy conservation in order to hope for this property. We show in this paper that this can be done successfully even along the ideas of DiPerna and Majda. Namely, it is possible to introduce a notion of “admissible measure-valued solution” for which existence and weak-strong uniqueness holds. In fact our argument shows that the barycenters of such solutions (see below for the relevant definitions) are dissipative solutions in the sense of Lions (note, however, that the ultimate conclusion of the proof is that the entire measure-valued solution, and not only its barycenter, coincides with the classical one). An interesting corollary of this analysis is that, whenever the Cauchy problem for the Euler equations has a solution with a certain minimum regularity (slightly weaker than Lipschitz), any sequence of Leray solutions to the vanishing viscosity approximation must converge to it. Known results in the literature about the convergence of solutions of Navier-Stokes to Euler (see for instance [5, 12]) assume more regularity.

This paper has been inspired by the works of Brenier and Grenier [3, 4]. The main idea of the arguments is taken from these papers and it is a modification

of a classical energy method which works for a variety of systems of evolutionary partial differential equations in conservation form. Our contribution is essentially of technical nature, clarifying the correct functional-analytic framework to make this idea work: note, indeed, that, besides the introduction of a suitable energy inequality, our definition of measure-valued solutions has some other substantial differences from the one of DiPerna and Majda. We conclude the note by showing that the same remark can be easily extended to hyperbolic systems of conservation laws which have a strictly convex entropy. Namely, the well-known works of Dafermos and DiPerna (see for instance [6] Theorem 5.3.1) can be extended to DiPerna's measure valued solutions, once we assume a suitable entropy condition. The proof of this statement is contained in Section 4. The other two Sections 2 and 3 discuss, respectively, generalized Young measures and the results mentioned above for incompressible Euler.

2. GENERALIZED YOUNG MEASURES

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be an open set and consider a bounded sequence $\{u_j\} \subset L^p(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. DiPerna and Majda defined generalized Young measures in order to describe weak limits of the form

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \phi(y) g(u_j(y)) dy$$

with $\phi \in C_c(\Omega)$ and the test function g is of the form

$$g(\xi) = \tilde{g}(\xi)(1 + |\xi|^p) \quad \text{for some } \tilde{g} \in BC(\mathbb{R}^n). \quad (1)$$

Here $BC(\mathbb{R}^n)$ denotes the set of bounded continuous functions on \mathbb{R}^n , and so (1) defines the largest class of test functions for which one expects to be able to represent the weak limit of $g(u_j)$. Since $BC(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is isometrically isomorphic to $C(\beta\mathbb{R}^n)$, where $\beta\mathbb{R}^n$ is the Stone-Ćech compactification of \mathbb{R}^n , the most general way to represent the weak limits is using a measure $\hat{\nu}$ in the space

$$\mathcal{M}(\Omega \times \beta\mathbb{R}^n) = C_0(\Omega \times \beta\mathbb{R}^n)^*.$$

In other words, there exists a subsequence u_{j_k} such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \phi(y) \tilde{g}(u_{j_k}(y)) (1 + |u_{j_k}(y)|^p) dy = \langle \hat{\nu}, \phi \tilde{g} \rangle$$

for all $\phi \in C_0(\Omega)$ and $\tilde{g} \in BC(\mathbb{R}^n)$. The measure $\hat{\nu}$ is called the *generalized Young measure*, c.f. [10, Corollary 4.1].

Moreover, DiPerna and Majda proved in [10, Theorem 4.3] that for a certain subclass of test functions the measure $\hat{\nu}$ admits a disintegration into a family of probability measures. More precisely, let $\mathcal{F} \subset BC(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be a separable completely regular subalgebra, and let $\sigma \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ the projection onto Ω of $\hat{\nu}$, i.e.

$$\sigma(E) = \hat{\nu}(E \times \beta\mathbb{R}^n) \text{ for } E \subset \Omega.$$

There exists a σ -measurable map

$$\Omega \rightarrow \text{Prob}(\beta\mathcal{F}\mathbb{R}^n) : y \mapsto \hat{\nu}_y$$

such that for every $\tilde{g} \in \mathcal{F}$ and $\phi \in C_0(\Omega)$

$$\langle \hat{\nu}, \phi \tilde{g} \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \phi \int_{\beta\mathcal{F}\mathbb{R}^n} \tilde{g} d\hat{\nu}_y d\sigma.$$

A particularly useful class of test functions is

$$\mathcal{F} = \{\tilde{g} \in BC(\mathbb{R}^n) : \tilde{g}^\infty(\xi) := \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{g}(s\xi) \text{ exists and is continuous on } S^{n-1}\}$$

In this case $\beta_{\mathcal{F}}\mathbb{R}^n$ can be identified with the closed unit ball $\overline{B^n}$. Observe that in this case $g^\infty(\xi) = \tilde{g}^\infty(\xi)(1 + |\xi|^p)$ coincides with the L^p -recession function

$$g^\infty(\theta) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(s\theta)}{s^p} \quad \text{for all } \theta \in S^{n-1}.$$

A further step in the analysis of such measures was taken by Alibert and Buttiché in [1]. They obtain a decomposition of ν into an triple

$$(\nu_y, \nu_y^\infty, \lambda) \in \text{Prob}(\mathbb{R}^n) \times \text{Prob}(S^{n-1}) \times \mathcal{M}^+(\Omega),$$

such that

$$\int_{\Omega} \phi \int_{\beta_{\mathcal{F}}\mathbb{R}^n} \tilde{g} d\hat{\nu}_y d\sigma = \int_{\Omega} \phi \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g d\nu_y dy + \int_{\Omega} \phi \int_{S^{n-1}} g^\infty d\nu_y^\infty d\lambda \quad \text{for all } \tilde{g} \in \mathcal{F}.$$

This is obtained by using the observation (by testing with $g(\xi) \equiv 1$) that

$$\text{for } \sigma_s - \text{a.e. } y : \quad \hat{\nu}_y \text{ is concentrated on } \beta_{\mathcal{F}}\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where σ_s is the singular part of σ with respect to Lebesgue measure. After appropriate normalizations one is lead to a representation of the above form.

At this point we introduce the following notation, adapted from [1]: given a Radon measure λ and a topological space X , we denote by $\mathcal{P}(\lambda; X)$ the set of parametrized families of probability measures (ν_y) on X which depend λ -measurably on the parameter y . In the particular case when λ is Lebesgue measure on $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, we write $\mathcal{P}(\Omega; X)$.

In summary, one has the following result:

THEOREM 1 (DiPerna-Majda, Alibert-Bouchitté). *Let $\{u_k\}$ be a bounded sequence in $L^p(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. There exists a subsequence $\{u_{k_j}\}$, a nonnegative Radon measure λ and parametrized families of probability measures $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$, $\nu^\infty \in \mathcal{P}(\lambda; S^{n-1})$ such that:*

$$g(u_{k_j}) \xrightarrow{*} \langle \nu, g \rangle + \langle \nu^\infty, g^\infty \rangle \lambda \quad (2)$$

in the sense of measures, for every $g \in \mathcal{F}$.

3. ADMISSIBLE MEASURE-VALUED SOLUTIONS OF EULER

Let $v_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\text{div } v_0 = 0$. Following [10], we consider a sequence of Leray solutions $v_\varepsilon \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+; L^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$ with vanishing viscosity $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. Using the uniform energy bound

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v_\varepsilon(x, t)|^2 dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v_0(x)|^2 dx$$

it is easy to see that for any bounded $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$ a suitable subsequence generates a measure-valued solution. Then, by considering a standard diagonal argument we can extend this to all of $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$. Using the representation above for the generalized Young measure $\hat{\nu}$, we thus obtain a triple $(\nu, \nu^\infty, \lambda)$ with $\lambda \in \mathcal{M}^+(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ and

$$\nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^n), \quad \nu^\infty \in \mathcal{P}(\lambda; S^{n-1}),$$

such that the equations

$$\partial_t \langle \nu, \xi \rangle + \text{div} \left(\langle \nu, \xi \otimes \xi \rangle + \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle \lambda \right) + \nabla p = 0, \quad (3)$$

$$\text{div} \langle \nu, \xi \rangle = 0 \quad (4)$$

hold in the sense of distributions. Here the bracket $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the appropriate integrals, so that

$$\langle \nu, \xi \otimes \xi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\xi \otimes \xi) \nu_{x,t}(d\xi), \quad \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle = \int_{S^{n-1}} (\theta \otimes \theta) \nu_{x,t}^\infty(d\theta),$$

and in particular

$$\bar{\nu}(x, t) := \langle \nu_{x,t}, \xi \rangle$$

stands for the barycenter of the probability measure $\nu_{x,t}$.

Now, testing (2) with $g(\xi) = |\xi|^2$ (and hence $g^\infty(\theta) \equiv 1$) and using the energy bound for the Leray solutions v_ε , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varphi(x) \chi(t) \langle \nu_{x,t}, |\xi|^2 \rangle dx dt + \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varphi(x) \chi(t) d\lambda &\leq \\ &\leq \|\varphi\|_\infty \|\chi\|_1 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v_0(x)|^2 dx \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

for all $\varphi \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $\chi \in C_c(\mathbb{R}_+)$. Jensen's inequality and the first term implies that $\bar{\nu} \in L_t^\infty L_x^2$, whereas the second term and a standard slicing argument implies that λ admits the representation

$$\lambda = \lambda_t(dx) \otimes dt,$$

where $t \mapsto \lambda_t$ is a measurable $\mathcal{M}_+(\mathbb{R}^n)$ -valued function. Thus, we may define the energy of the generalized Young measure as $E \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$ by

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \langle \nu_{x,t}, |\xi|^2 \rangle dx + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_t(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

and obviously from (5) we conclude

$$E(t) \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v_0(x)|^2 dx \quad \text{for a.e. } t. \quad (6)$$

Moreover, from (3) we deduce that $\bar{\nu}$ can be redefined on a set of times of measure zero so that for any $\varphi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ the function

$$t \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varphi(x) \bar{\nu}(x, t) dx$$

is continuous. Hence we may assume that $\bar{\nu} \in C([0, \infty[; L_w^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$ and in particular $\bar{\nu}(\cdot, t) \rightharpoonup v_0(\cdot)$ in L^2 as $t \rightarrow 0$. We can combine this information with (3) in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \partial_t \phi \cdot \bar{\nu} + \nabla \phi : \langle \nu, \xi \otimes \xi \rangle dx dt + \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \nabla \phi : \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle \lambda(dx, dt) \\ = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \phi(x, 0) v_0(x) dx \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

for all $\phi \in C_c^\infty([0, \infty[\times \mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\operatorname{div} \phi = 0$ (we use here the common notation $A : B = \sum_{ij} A_{ij} B_{ij}$).

Motivated by the above, in analogy with DiPerna [9, Section 4b)] we make the following definition:

DEFINITION 1. *A triple $(\nu, \nu^\infty, \lambda)$ is an admissible measure-valued solution of the Euler equations with initial data v_0 provided (4), (5) and (7) hold.*

In the above we have shown, in particular, the following

PROPOSITION 1. *For any initial data $v_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, any sequence of Leray's solutions to Navier-Stokes with vanishing viscosity has a subsequence converging to an admissible measure-valued solution. There exists, therefore, at least one such solution.*

3.1. Weak-strong uniqueness. Let $v_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\operatorname{div} v_0 = 0$, and consider the initial value problem for the incompressible Euler equations. We show here the following theorem.

THEOREM 2. *Assume that $v \in C([0, T]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$ is a solution with*

$$\int_0^T \|\nabla v + \nabla v^T\|_\infty dt < \infty \quad (8)$$

and let $(\nu, \nu^\infty, \lambda)$ be any admissible measure-valued solution. Then $\lambda = 0$ and $\nu_{x,t} = \delta_{v(x,t)}$ for a.e. (x, t) .

Indeed, the proof below yields easily the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 2. *Let $(\nu, \nu^\infty, \lambda)$ be an admissible measure-valued solution. Then $v(t, x) := \langle \nu_{t,x}, \xi \rangle$ is a dissipative solution in the sense of Lions.*

Finally, we observe that Proposition 1 and Theorem 2 has the following interesting corollary.

COROLLARY 1. *Assume that, for some divergence-free $v_0 \in L^2$ there is a solution $v \in C([0, T]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$ of Euler such that (8) holds. Then, any sequence of Leray's solutions to the corresponding vanishing viscosity approximation converge to v in $L^2((0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^n)$.*

Proof of Theorem 2. Let

$$F(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \langle \nu_{x,t}, |\xi - v(x, t)|^2 \rangle dx + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_t(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Furthermore, for $\varphi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\operatorname{div} \varphi = 0$ define

$$F^\varphi(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varphi(x) \langle \nu_{x,t}, |\xi - v(x, t)|^2 \rangle dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varphi(x) \lambda_t(dx).$$

Observe that $F^\varphi \in L^\infty(0, T)$ by (5). Let $\chi \in C_c^\infty(0, T)$ and consider

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \chi'(t) F^\varphi(t) dt &= \frac{1}{2} \iint \chi' \varphi \langle \nu, |\xi|^2 \rangle dx dt + \frac{1}{2} \iint \chi' \varphi \lambda_t(dx) dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \iint \chi' \varphi |v|^2 dx dt - \iint \chi' \varphi \bar{v} \cdot v dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Using (7) the final term above can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} - \iint \chi' \varphi \bar{v} \cdot v dx dt &= \iint -\partial_t(\chi \varphi v) \cdot \bar{v} - \chi \varphi \bar{v} \cdot (\operatorname{div}(v \otimes v) + \nabla p) dx dt \\ &= \iint \chi \nabla(\varphi v) : \langle \nu, \xi \otimes \xi \rangle - \chi \varphi \bar{v} \cdot \operatorname{div}(v \otimes v) dx dt \\ &\quad + \iint \chi \nabla(\varphi v) : \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle \lambda_t(dx) dt \\ &\quad - \iint \chi \varphi \bar{v} \cdot \nabla p dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Next, we use the identities

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla(\varphi v) : (\bar{v} \otimes v) &= \varphi \bar{v} \cdot \operatorname{div}(v \otimes v) - (\nabla \varphi \cdot v)(v \cdot \bar{v}), \\ \nabla(\varphi v) : (v \otimes \bar{v}) &= \nabla \varphi \cdot \bar{v} \frac{|v|^2}{2} + \nabla(\varphi \frac{|v|^2}{2}) \cdot \bar{v}, \\ \nabla(\varphi v) : (v \otimes v) &= \nabla \varphi \cdot v \frac{|v|^2}{2} + \nabla(\varphi \frac{|v|^2}{2}) \cdot v, \end{aligned}$$

together with $\operatorname{div} v = 0$, $\operatorname{div} \bar{v} = 0$ to rearrange further as

$$\begin{aligned} - \iint \chi' \varphi \bar{v} \cdot v dx dt &= \iint \chi \nabla(\varphi v) : \langle \nu, (\xi - v) \otimes (\xi - v) \rangle dx dt \\ &\quad + \iint \chi \nabla(\varphi v) : \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle \lambda_t(dx) dt \\ &\quad + \iint \chi \nabla \varphi \cdot \left((\bar{v} - v) \frac{|v|^2}{2} + \bar{v} p \right) + \chi (\nabla \varphi \cdot v)(v \cdot \bar{v}) dx dt. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Observe that $\|v\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)}$ can be bounded in terms of $\|\nabla v + \nabla v^T\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)} + \|v\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}$. Indeed, for any ball $B_1(x_0)$ Korn's inequality implies a bound on $\|\nabla v\|_{L^p(B_1(x_0))}$, and from here the bound on $\|v\|_{L^\infty(B_1(x_0))}$ follows from the Sobolev embedding and the uniform L^2 bound. In turn, from the uniform L^∞ and L^2 bounds on v follows that $v \in L^4(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $p \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Next, take a sequence $\{\varphi_k\}$ such that $0 \leq \varphi_k(x) \leq 1$, $\varphi_k \equiv 1$ on $B_k(0)$ and $\|\nabla \varphi_k\|_{C^0}$ is uniformly bounded. Using dominated convergence and the bounds obtained above we see that under the assumption (8)

$$\iint \chi \nabla \varphi_k \cdot \left((\bar{\nu} - v) \frac{|v|^2}{2} + \bar{\nu} p \right) + \chi (\nabla \varphi_k \cdot v) (v \cdot \bar{\nu}) \, dx dt \rightarrow 0,$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} - \iint \chi' \varphi_k \bar{\nu} \cdot v \, dx dt &\xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \iint \chi \nabla v : \langle \nu, (\xi - v) \otimes (\xi - v) \rangle \, dx dt \\ &\quad + \iint \chi \nabla v : \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle \lambda_t(dx) dt \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Passing to the limit also in (9) and symmetrizing the ∇u terms we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \chi'(t) F(t) \, dt &= \int_0^T \chi'(t) E(t) \, dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \chi' \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v|^2 \, dx \, dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \iint \chi (\nabla v + \nabla v^T) : \langle \nu, (\xi - v) \otimes (\xi - v) \rangle \, dx dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \iint \chi (\nabla v + \nabla v^T) : \langle \nu^\infty, \theta \otimes \theta \rangle \lambda_t(dx) dt \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Since $\nabla v \in L^1([0, T], L^q(B))$ for every $q < \infty$ and $p \in L^2$, it is easy to see that $\partial_t |v|^2 + \operatorname{div}[(|v|^2 + 2p)v] = 0$. On the other hand, integrating this identity in space, the bounds above imply that $\int |v|^2(x, t) \, dx$ is constant. Hence we deduce

$$- \int_0^T \chi'(t) F(t) \, dt \leq - \int_0^T \chi'(t) E(t) \, dt + C \int_0^T \chi(t) \|\nabla v(t) + \nabla v(t)^T\|_\infty F(t) \, dt.$$

Therefore, for almost every $s, t \in (0, T)$

$$F(t) - F(s) \leq E(t) - E(s) + C \int_s^t \|\nabla v(\tau) + \nabla v(\tau)^T\|_\infty F(\tau) \, d\tau. \quad (14)$$

Finally, observe that

$$F(s) = E(s) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \bar{\nu} \cdot v \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v|^2 \, dx,$$

so that (14) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} F(t) &\leq E(t) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \bar{\nu}(x, s) \cdot v(x, s) \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v(x, s)|^2 \, dx \\ &\quad + C \int_s^t \|\nabla v(\tau) + \nabla v(\tau)^T\|_\infty F(\tau) \, d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Now passing to the limit $s \rightarrow 0$ (justified since $\bar{\nu} \in CL_w^2$)

$$F(t) \leq E(t) - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v_0(x)|^2 \, dx + C \int_s^t \|\nabla v(\tau) + \nabla v(\tau)^T\|_\infty F(\tau) \, d\tau,$$

from which (recalling (6))

$$F(t) \leq C \int_0^t \|\nabla v(\tau) + \nabla v(\tau)^T\|_\infty F(\tau) \, d\tau$$

follows by the admissibility assumption. Finally, this last inequality implies that $F(t) = 0$ for a.e. t , as required. Q.E.D.

4. HYPERBOLIC SYSTEMS OF CONSERVATION LAWS

In this section we consider hyperbolic systems of conservation laws

$$\partial_t U + \operatorname{div}_x F(U) = 0 \quad (15)$$

where $U : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ is the unknown vector function and $F : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ a C^2 map. Equation (15) reads therefore

$$\partial_t u^i + \partial_{x_j}(F^{ij}(u)) = 0,$$

which for differentiable solutions becomes $\partial_t u^i + \partial_l F^{il}(u) \partial_{x_j} u^j = 0$ (in these last identities and in what follows we use Einstein's summation convention on repeated indices).

We assume that (15) has a strictly convex entropy, i.e. that there is a C^2 map $(\eta, q) : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $D^2 \eta \geq c_0 \operatorname{Id} > 0$ and

$$\partial_i \eta \partial_l F^{il} = \partial_l q^l. \quad (16)$$

Thus, any Lipschitz solution of (15) satisfies the identity $\partial_t(\eta(u)) + \operatorname{div}_x(q(u)) = 0$.

DEFINITION 2. *A bounded admissible measure-valued solution ν of (15) with initial data $U_0 \in L^\infty$ is a parametrized family of probability measures $\nu \in \mathcal{P}([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^k)$ such that*

- $t \mapsto \langle \nu_t, \cdot, \xi \rangle$ is a weakly* continuous map, taking values in $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$;
- the identity

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \langle \nu, \xi \rangle + \operatorname{div}_x \langle \nu, F(\xi) \rangle = 0 \\ \langle \nu_{0,x}, \xi \rangle = U_0(x) \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

holds in the sense of distributions;

- the inequality

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \langle \nu, \eta(\xi) \rangle + \operatorname{div}_x \langle \nu, q(\xi) \rangle \leq 0 \\ \langle \nu_{0,x}, \eta(\xi) \rangle = \eta(U_0(x)) \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

holds in the sense of distributions.

THEOREM 3. *Assume $U : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ is a bounded Lipschitz solution of (15) and ν a bounded admissible measure valued solution of (15) with initial data $U_0 = U(0, \cdot)$. Then $\nu_{t,x} = \delta_{U(t,x)}$ for a.e. $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$.*

The proof follows essentially the computations of pages 98-100 in [6].

PROOF. We start by defining the following functions of t and x :

$$h := \langle \nu, \eta(\xi) \rangle - \eta(U) - D\eta(U) \cdot [\langle \nu, \xi \rangle - U] \quad (19)$$

$$Y^\alpha := \langle \nu, q^\alpha(\xi) \rangle - q^\alpha(U) - \partial_l \eta(U) [\langle \nu, F^{l\alpha}(\xi) \rangle - F^{l\alpha}(U)] \quad (20)$$

$$Z_\beta^\alpha := \partial_{\beta j} \eta(U) [\langle \nu, F^{j\alpha}(\xi) \rangle - F^{j\alpha}(U) - \partial_l F^{j\alpha}(U) (\langle \nu, \xi^l \rangle - U^l)] \quad (21)$$

Recall that $\operatorname{supp}(\nu_{t,x})$ and $|U(t, x)|$ are both uniformly bounded and that η, q and F are C^2 functions. So, there exists a constant C such that the following identities hold for every $\xi \in \operatorname{supp}(\nu_{t,x})$:

$$\begin{aligned} |q^\alpha(U(t, x)) - q^\alpha(\xi) - \partial_i q^\alpha(U(t, x))(U^i(t, x) - \xi^i)| &\leq C|U(t, x) - \xi|^2 \\ |F^{j\alpha}(U(t, x)) - F^{j\alpha}(\xi) - \partial_i F^{j\alpha}(U(t, x))(U^i(t, x) - \xi^i)| &\leq C|U(t, x) - \xi|^2 \end{aligned}$$

(we underline that C is a constant independent of t, x and ξ).

Plugging these last identities into (20) and recalling (16), we conclude

$$|Y(t, x)| \leq C \int |U(t, x) - \xi|^2 d\nu_{t,x}(\xi). \quad (22)$$

On the other hand, using that $D^2\eta \geq c_0 Id$, we easily infer

$$|h(t, x)| \geq \frac{c_0}{2} \int |U(t, x) - \xi|^2 d\nu_{t,x} \quad (23)$$

and hence that

$$|Y(t, x)| \leq C_0 |h(t, x)|. \quad (24)$$

A similar computation yields

$$|Z(t, x)| \leq C_1 |h(t, x)|. \quad (25)$$

Next recall that

$$\partial_t(\eta(U)) + \operatorname{div}_x(q(U)) = 0 \quad (26)$$

(because U is Lipschitz). Fix a test function $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times]-T, T[)$. Combining (26) with (18), we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \int [\partial_t \psi h + \partial_{x_\alpha} \psi Y^\alpha] &\geq - \int_0^T \int \left[\partial_t \psi \partial_i \eta(U) (U^i - \langle \nu, \xi^i \rangle) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \partial_{x_\alpha} \psi \partial_i \eta(U) (F^{i\alpha}(U) - \langle \nu, F^{i\alpha}(\xi) \rangle) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

(no boundary term appears because the initial condition is the same for both $\langle \nu, \eta(\xi) \rangle$ and $\eta(U)$).

In fact, by an easy approximation argument, (27) holds for any test function which is just Lipschitz continuous. Similarly, we can use the test function $\Phi := \psi D\eta(U)$ (which is Lipschitz and compactly supported) on the identity (17) to get

$$\int \int \left[\partial_t (\psi \partial_i \eta(U)) (U^i - \langle \nu, \xi^i \rangle) + \partial_{x_\alpha} (\psi \partial_i \eta(U)) (F^{i\alpha}(U) - \langle \nu, F^{i\alpha}(\xi) \rangle) \right] = 0. \quad (28)$$

Since U is Lipschitz, we can use the chain rule and (15) to compute

$$\partial_t (\partial_i \eta(U)) (U^i - \langle \nu, \xi^i \rangle) + \partial_{x_\alpha} (\partial_i \eta(U)) (F^{i\alpha}(U) - \langle \nu, F^{i\alpha}(\xi) \rangle) = \partial_{x_\alpha} U^i Z_i^\alpha \quad (29)$$

Combining (27), (28) and (29) we infer

$$\int \int [\partial_t \psi h + \partial_{x_\alpha} \psi Y^\alpha] \geq \int \int \psi \partial_{x_\alpha} U^i Z_i^\alpha. \quad (30)$$

Next, fix any point $\tau < T$, any radius $R > 0$ and $\varepsilon \in]0, T - \tau[$. Consider the test function $\psi(t, x) = \omega(t) \chi(t, x)$ where

$$\omega(t) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 \leq t < \tau - \varepsilon \\ 1 - \varepsilon^{-1}(t - \tau + \varepsilon) & \text{for } \tau - \varepsilon \leq t \leq \tau \\ 0 & \text{for } t \geq \tau. \end{cases}$$

$$\chi(x, t) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |x| \leq R + C_0(\tau - t) \\ 1 - \varepsilon^{-1}(|x| - R - C_0(\tau - t)) & \text{if } 0 \leq |x| - (R + C_0(\tau - t)) \leq \varepsilon \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where C_0 is the constant appearing in (24). Note that:

- $0 \leq \psi \leq 1$;
- $\psi(t, x) = 0$ if $t \geq \tau$ or $|x| \geq \varepsilon + R + C(\tau - t)$;
- $\partial_t \psi = -\varepsilon^{-1}$ on $B_R(0) \times]\tau - \varepsilon, \tau[$;
- $|\nabla_x \psi| \leq -C_0^{-1} \partial_t \psi$.

Combining these pieces of information with (24), from (30) we easily conclude

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{\tau-\varepsilon}^{\tau} \int_{|x| \leq R} h \, dx \, dt \leq \int_0^{\tau} \int_{|x| \leq R + \varepsilon + C_0(\tau-t)} |\nabla U| |Z| \, dx \, dt \quad (31)$$

Recalling (25) and the Lipschitz regularity of U we conclude

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{\tau-\varepsilon}^{\tau} \int_{|x| \leq R} h \, dx \, dt \leq C \int_0^{\tau} \int_{|x| \leq R+\varepsilon+C_0(\tau-t)} h \, dx \, dt. \quad (32)$$

Finally, letting $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ and using the fact that h is integrable, we conclude

$$\int_{|x| \leq R} h(x, \tau) \, dx \leq C \int_0^{\tau} \int_{|x| \leq R+C_0(\tau-t)} h(x, t) \, dx \, dt \quad \text{for a.e. } \tau. \quad (33)$$

Note, moreover, that the set of measure zero where (33) fails can be chosen independently of R . Therefore, having fixed any $s < T$, we infer

$$\int_{|x| \leq R+C_0(s-\tau)} h(x, \tau) \, dx \leq C \int_0^{\tau} \int_{|x| \leq R+C_0(s-t)} h(x, t) \, dx \, dt \quad \text{for a.e. } \tau \in [0, s]. \quad (34)$$

If we set

$$g(\tau) := \int_{|x| \leq R+C_0(s-\tau)} h(x, \tau) \, dx,$$

then (34) becomes the Gronwall's inequality $g(\tau) \leq C \int_0^{\tau} g(t) \, dt$, which leads to the conclusion $g \equiv 0$. By the arbitrariness of $R > 0$ and $s < T$ we conclude that $h \equiv 0$ on $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$. Recalling (23), we infer $\nu_{x,t} = \delta_{U(x,t)}$ for a.e. (x, t) , which is the desired conclusion. Q.E.D.

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